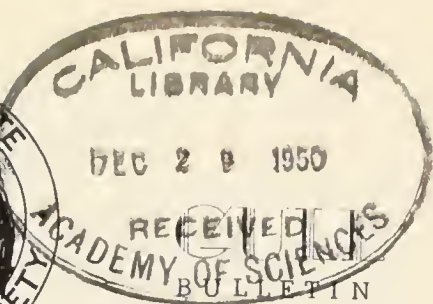


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AN INTERESTING WINTER TRIP

On February 12, 1950—we drove to Stockton, over the Borden Highway from Byron, then south on U. S. #99 about 2 miles to the Mariposa Road, 8 miles on this road, 3 miles beyond Collegeville, to the Gawne Road, a well paved road with a signpost; going east on the Gawne Road about 7 miles, on a rolling terrain with shallow ponds and drainage rills during the rainy season, where we have never failed to see numerous waterfowl at this time of the year. From the car, we observed the following birds close to the road, 1 Am. egret; 1 gt. blue heron; 15 whistling swan; many Canada geese flying & on the ground; many mallard, baldpate, & pintail; 2 pr. cinnamon teal; 2 pr. canvasback; 1 white-tailed kite, flying; 1 Am. rough-leg hawk in a tree; 1 sparrow hawk; 5 ringneck pheasant; 5 Florida gallinule all at one time on the road with many coots; many killdeer; 7 Wilson snipe, one less than 10 feet from the car; 9 western willets; 25 - 50 sandpipers, not identified; 1 mockingbird; & many western meadow lark & redwing blackbird; all while sitting in the car on the road.

On another trip N.W. of Stockton we saw a group of 5 Am. bittern, 1 white-tailed kite, 3 Florida gallinule, many other waterfowl and a beaver.

Respectfully submitted for those who wish a winter trip.

—MR. & MRS. HERMAN V. LEFFLER

November — ORINDA — Trip

Leaving Berkeley November 25th under blue skies and a warm sun, we found a chilly tule fog obscuring the landscape at Orinda Lake, and group of 12 at the meeting place.

Hooded mergansers were seen on the lake, also the interesting spectacle of a great blue heron catching a large frog, and playing with it; dropping it in the water again; and finally swallowing this good solid breakfast, which could be seen as a lump in the heron's neck.

Going on to San Pablo Reservoir, a number of Canada geese were observed, as well as other wild fowl, also 5 Calif. woodpeckers working on the same tree at the same time.

On the road to St. Mary's 50 mourning doves were seen sitting on a fence, and over 200 Arkansas (green-bk.) goldfinches on the wires. The fog made observation difficult. 30 species were seen.

—ETHEL M. MATHESON, *Historian*

WILLOWS — GRIDLEY TRIP

On Saturday, Dec. 2nd, some thirty stalwart folk braved what gave promise of being a wet week-end and met at the Sacramento Waterfowl Refuge near Willows. Some of the group had fine views of an immature Ferruginous Rough-legged Hawk along the way. From the tower at refuge Hqtrs., Mt. Shasta and Mt. Lassen could be seen covered with snow.

Mr. Vernon Ekedahl, Refuge Manager, led the car caravan out to a favorable point and the group started to walk but were driven back to the cars by heavy rain almost immediately. The rain continued for the balance of the weekend but some twelve people stayed overnight in Gridley and went to the Gray Lodge Refuge the following morning as planned. However the levee roads had become so saturated that they could not be traversed. In spite of these unfortunate circumstances a fair amount of birding was done from the cars. Over 400 sandhill cranes were seen and the following sixty-two species were observed.

Eared, pied-billed grebe; white pelican; great blue heron; American, snowy egret; black-crowned night heron; American bittern; Canada, white-fronted, snow goose; mallard; gadwall; baldpate; pintail; green-winged, cinnamon teal; shoveller; American golden-eye; ruddy duck; American merganser; red-tailed, ferruginous rough-legged, marsh, pigeon, sparrow hawk; Calif. quail; ring-neck pheasant; sandhill crane; Florida gallinule; coot; killdeer; long-billed dowitcher; Calif. gull; mourning dove; burrowing owl; belted kingfisher; red-shafted flicker; black phoebe; Say phoebe; horned lark; tree swallow; yellow-billed magpie; marsh wren; robin; mountain bluebird; ruby-crowned kinglet; American pipit; Calif. shrike; myrtle warbler; house sparrow; western meadowlark; yellow-headed, red-winged, Brewer blackbird; cowbird; Arkansas (green-backed) goldfinch savannah, lark sparrow; Oregon junco; white-crowned, golden-crowned sparrow.

— HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Leader and Historian*

HIGH LIGHTS OF NOVEMBER MEETING

The status of the Berkeley Aquatic Park was reviewed by Mrs. Richardson, who stated that a meeting would be held in the near future, with co-operating organizations and official bodies in an effort to secure appropriations for the park and the feeding of the migratory water fowl. Mrs. Richardson and Mr. Arthur Myer will represent the Society.

Mrs. Albert Stephens gave a most interesting talk on Hummingbirds: 488 known species, mostly in South America; the smallest 2½ inches in Cuba; the largest 8½ inches in the Andes Mts.; only one, the ruby-throat east of the Mississippi; 7 species recorded in California; the Anna, resident of the Bay area; the Allen and rufous arrive in the Spring; the Calliope, the smallest in the United States, (nesting at 4 - 11000 elevation), recorded on Oct. 9, 1938 in this area; the Costa, a stragler and the black-chinned a casual visitor here; the broad-tailed found near Independence in 1912. Mrs. Stephens showed interesting prints of these mites.

December — MARIN LAKES — Trip

The weather prediction was for rain on Sunday, December 17th, nevertheless 17 Audubon members met in Ross at 9:00, Mrs. Otis Smith leading.

The sun shone bright and warm. Mud was a little annoying in a few places but the trail was very beautiful with maidenhair fern in profusion and an occasional dentaria in blossom.

Phoenix Lake presented the first hooded mergansers, Lake Lagunitas, the lunch spot, had both hooded and American mergansers. At Bon Tempe Lake a group of ring-necked ducks were seen. Good use was made of Mr. Curl's telescope in identifying these birds.

The following 41 species were seen on the trip:

Pied-billed grebe; db.-cr. cormorant; ring necked duck; hooded and American merganser; turkey vulture; sharp skinned, red-tailed, duck and sparrow hawk; Calif. quail; willet; spotted sandpiper; glaucous-winged gull; band-tailed pigeon; kingfisher; red-shafted flicker; red-breasted sapsucker; hairy, downy and Calif. woodpecker; black phoebe; Steller and scrub jay; chickadee; bush-tit; robin; varied and hermit thrush; western blue bird; ruby-crowned kinglet; cedar waxwing; Audubon warbler; pine siskin; Arkansas (green-backed) gorld-finch; purple finch; brown towhee; Oregon junco; Nuttall, golden-crowned and song sparrow.

—MYRA BROWNE, *Historian*

HIGH LIGHTS OF DECEMBER DINNER MEETING. Ninety members and guests attended including representatives from Sequoia Audubon Society of Redwood City and Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, who traveled many miles, despite the deluge of rain. Mr. Lionel King, the president of Sequoia, gave a report of the activities of this new group, Mr. Neil Dickenson spoke of the interests of the thriving Valley Society and Mrs. Myra Browne, told of the Golden Gate's activities.

Dr. Reynolds spoke of the necessity of conserving the diminishing shore bird habitats; Mr. Cogswell presented maps showing marsh areas, around the bay, those near Alviso being the most likely for refuge purposes; Mrs. Kelly and Dr. Pitelka, of the Musuem of Vertebrate Zoology at U.C. also voiced their concern over these birds.

Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Reynolds showed remarkable pictures of the shore-birds at Aquatic Park and Bay Farm Island.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following; from San Francisco, Mrs. Beatrice Kertis, Mr. and Mrs. Gerfield D. Merner; from Oakland, Mrs. H. K. Trousdale; from Walnut Creek, Mrs. Mildred O. Tiffany.

OBSERVATIONS. Edited by Mrs. Junea W. Kelly.

1 Anthony green heron, 2 American mergansers, Nov. 19, Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland. Ken Schulz.

The Monterey Peninsula Audubon Society reports seeing over 1000 sandhill cranes at Los Banos Nov. 11th.

JANUARY MEETING

The 400th meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held on Jan. 11th at the Oakland Public Museum, Lake Merritt, Oak and 14th St. at 7:30 p. m.

Following the election of new officers for 1951, Mrs. Junea W. Kelly will speak on the subject "Shorebirding On Two Continents". Mrs. Kelly was the Cooper Ornithological Club delegate to the recent Tenth Ornithological Congress meeting at Upsala, Sweden. Guests are welcome.

No-host dinner at Zerikotes, Lake Merritt at 6 p.m.

— HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Program Chairman*

AUDUBON SCREEN TOURS, Thursday, January 4th CANADA EAST by Bert Harwell. Tuesday, January 30th UNDER WATER KINGDOM by Lucie Palmer.

JANUARY TOMALES BAY TRIP

On Sunday, January 14, to Tomales Bay and Vicinity, Marin Co. From San Francisco take the 7:40 a. m. bus to Point Reyes Stations. Meet at the hotel there at 9:30 a. m. The trip to Tomales Point, which will be taken if possible, involves a hike of several miles. Last year the Harlequin Duck, Brant, Fulmar and Oyster-catcher were seen here. An alternate trip is up the east side of Tomales Bay and to Dillon Beach. In 1949 and 1950, 99 and 97 species, respectively were seen on this trip. Leader, Seth Bailey. Bring lunch, binoculars, telescope and friends.

JANUARY LAKE MERRITT TRIP

On Saturday, January 27, to Lake Merritt in Oakland. Meet at 10:00 a. m. at the duck feeding station. Take 9:20 "B" train from San Francisco. From the East Bay take Bus 51 or 58 and transfer to 12 or 18. Get off at Perkins St. and Grand Ave. Bring lunch, binoculars, telescope and interested friends.

TENTATIVE FUTURE TRIPS

Feb. 11—Marin Co. Peninsulas
Feb. 24—Berkeley Aquatic Park
March 11—Calaveras Reservoir
March 24—Golden Gate Park

A. LAURENCE CURL

"Members of the Society have been invited to attend the meeting of the East Bay Aquarium Society to be held at 8:30 p.m., February 9, 1951, at Lakeview School, MacArthur Blvd. and Grand Ave., Oakland."

Golden Gate Audubon Society

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

Branch of National Audubon Society

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Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

Assembly Room, San Francisco Public Library, Larkin and McAllister Sts., San Francisco
Alternate months — Oakland.

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